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ABSTRACT

The purpose of the present study was to gain some insight as to why students initiate but do not complete registration at Cerritos College. A sample of 1,275 were identified as not having completed the registration process preceding the Fall semester, 1972. A postage-paid postcard questionnaire was sent to each of these students; 28% were completed and returned. The results suggest that: (1) apparently the major reason why some potential students do not complete registration is that they are unable to take the course they desire at a time that fits their schedule; (2) about 24% of those who did return the questionnaire attended another two-year college or four-year school the same semester; (3) of the "other" reasons for not completing registration, the four most frequently cited were: (a) "Personal, health, or family problems"; (b) "In military service"; (c) "Moved or out of state"; and (d) "Money problems." In addition, 40% stated they were considering enrolling in the Spring, and 49% said they were not. (Author)

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FOLLOW-UP OF POTENTIAL STUDENTS WHO DID NOT COMPLETE REGISTRATION AT CERRITOS COLLEGE, FALL 1972

Office of
Institutional Research
Cerritos College
Spring, 1973

Gary F. Schaumburg,
Director of Research

JC 730 194

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of the present study was to gain some insight as to why students initiate but do not complete registration at Cerritos College. A sample of 1,275 were identified as not having completed the registration process preceding the Fall semester, 1972. A postage-paid postcard questionnaire was sent to each of these students; 28% were completed and returned. The results suggest that: (1) apparently the major reason why some potential students do not complete registration is that they are unable to take the course they desire at a time that fits their schedule; (2) about 24% of those who did return the questionnaire attended another two-year college or four-year school the same semester; (3) of the "other" reasons for not completing registration, the four most frequently cited were: (a) "Personal, health, or family problems"; (b) "In military service"; (c) "Moved or out of state" and; (d) "Money problems". In addition 40% stated they were considering enrolling in the Spring, 49% said they were not.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the present study was to gain some insight as to why some students initiate but do not complete registration at Cerritos College. In order to carryout the study 1,275 individuals were identified as not having completed the registration process preceding the Fall semester, 1972. A postage-paid postcard questionnaire was sent to each of these individuals. Of the 1,275 surveys mailed 60 or 4.7% did not reach the individuals for which intended and returned by the post office. Of the remaining 1,215 questionnaires 340 or 28.0% were completed and returned by the recipients.

RESULTS

In response to the statement, "Our records show that you expressed interest in attending Cerritos College this fall but did not complete registration. We are sincerely interested in learning why you did not attend Cerritos and would appreciate your feelings in regard to the possible reasons listed below:" the reason most frequently checked of the five listed was "Class offerings were in conflict with work schedule". Following in rank order were: "Desired classes were closed"; "Attending a four-year school"; "Attending another two-year college" and "Desired classes were not offered". See Table 1.

Table 1

Rank Order of Responses to the Statement: "Our records show that you expressed interest in attending Cerritos College this Fall but did not complete registration. We are sincereiy interested in learning why you did not attend Cerritos and would appreciate your feelings in regard to the possible reasons listed below:"

Rank		Frequency of Responses	Percent of total Responses
1	Class offerings were in conflict with work schedule	84	24.7%
2	Desired classes were closed	54	15.9%
3	Attending a four year school	41	12.1%
4	Attending another two year college	39	11.5%
5	Desired classes were not offered	15	4.4%
"	Personal, health, or family problems	15	4.4%
6	In military service	14	4.1%
7	Moved or out of state	13	3.8%
8	Not able to get in Dental Hygiene Program	12	3.5%
9	Money problems	10	2.9%
10	Out of district	9	2.6%
10	I did complete registration & I am presently attending Cerritos	9	2.6%
11	Because of high school classes	7	2.1%
12	Attending a trade school	4	1.2%
13	No transportation	3	0.9%
"	No longer interested	3	0.9%
"	Unable to get an appointment with a counselor	3	0.9%
14	Needed prerequisites	1	0.3%
"	Decided not to attend this semester but will be back next semester	1	0.3%
"	Had barefeet and you would not let me finish registration	1	0.3%
"	Friend did not register for me	1	0.3%
"	Told I was too old to become a Deputy Sheriff	1	0.3%
		340	100.0%

Of those that did not check one of the listed reasons but used the "OTHER" section of the questionnaire, the reason listed most often was "Personal, health, or family problems", followed in rank order by "In military service"; "Moved out of state"; "Not able to get in Dental Hygiene Program"; "Money problems"; "Out of district"; "Conflict with High School classes"; "Attending a trade school"; "No transportation"; "No longer interested"; "Unable to get an appointment with a counselor"; "Needed prerequisites"; "Decided not to attend this semester but will be back next semester"; "Had barefeet and you would not let me finish registration"; "Friend did not register for me"; "Told I was too old to become a Deputy Sheriff". See Table 1.

In response to the question, "Are you considering enrolling in the Spring?", 138 or 40.6% stated "Yes", 167 or 49.1% "No", 10 or 2.9% were "Undecided", and 25 or 7.4% did not answer.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

1. Apparently the major reason why some potential students do not complete registration is that they are unable to take the course they desire at a time that fits their schedule (i.e. the time(s) the course was offered conflicted with work schedule, and the course or program desired was already closed, accounted for 50% of the reasons cited).

2. It also appears that about 24% of those who did return the questionnaire attended another two-year college or four-year school the same semester.

3. Of the "Other" reasons for not completing registration, the four most frequently cited were: (a) "Personal, health, or family problems"; (b) "In military service"; (c) "Moved or out of state" and; (d) "Money problems".

4. In response to the question, "Are you considering enrolling in the Spring?", 40% stated "Yes" and 49% "No".

FOLLOW-UP SURVEY OF "NO-SHOWS": CERRITOS COLLEGE, FALL, 1972

Office of
Institutional Research
Cerritos College
Spring, 1973

Gary F. Schaumburg,
Director of Research

INTRODUCTION

The objective of the study was to gain a better understanding as to why some students complete the registration process at Cerritos College but do not attend any classes. In order to carry-out the study 401 individuals were identified as having completed the registration process but never attending any classes during the Fall semester, 1972. A postage-paid postcard questionnaire was sent to each of these individuals. Of the 401 questionnaires mailed 25 or 6.2% did not reach the individuals for which intended and were returned by the post office. Of the remaining 376 questionnaires 147 or 39.1% were completed and returned by the recipients.

RESULTS

In response to the statement, "Our records show that you registered at Cerritos College this Fall but did not attend any classes. We are sincerely interested in learning why you did not attend and would appreciate your feelings in regard to the possible reasons listed below:" the reason most frequently checked of the seven listed was "Course conflicted with work schedule". Following in rank order were: "Personal or health problems"; "Financial problems"; "Lack of interest"; "Attended another four-year school"; "Attended another two-year college" and; "Entered the armed services". See Table 1.

Table 1

Rank Order of Responses to the Statement: "Our records show that you registered at Cerritos College this Fall but did not attend any classes. We are sincerely interested in learning why you did not attend and would appreciate your feelings in regard to the possible reasons listed below:"

Rank		Frequency of Responses	Percent of total Responses
1	Course conflicted with work schedule	76	51.7%
2	Personal or health problems	34	23.1%
3	Financial problems	8	5.5%
4	Lack of interest	5	3.4%
5	Attended another four-year school	4	2.7%
"	Moved	4	2.7%
6	Signed up for wrong class	3	2.0%
"	Have been attending classes	3	2.0%
"	Could not get in the class I wanted	3	2.0%
7	Attended another two-year college	2	1.4%
"	Entered the armed services	2	1.4%
8	Transportation problem	1	0.7%
"	Out of district	1	0.7%
"	Got married	1	0.7%
		147	100.0%

Of those that did not check one of the listed reasons but used the "OTHER" section of the questionnaire, the reason listed most often was "Moved", followed in rank order by "Could not get in the class I wanted"; "Signed up for wrong class"; "Have been attending classes"; "Out of district"; "Transportation problem" and; "Got married". See Table 1.

In response to the question, "Are you considering enrolling in the Spring?" 63 or 42.9% stated "Yes", 69 or 46.9% "No", 4 or 2.7% were "Undecided", and 11 or 7.5% did not answer.

CONCLUSION

Apparently the major reasons why some students complete the registration process at Cerritos but do not attend any classes, are a subsequent "conflict with work schedule" and "personal or health problems". These two reasons accounted for 75% of the responses given.

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